

VOLUME VIII — NO. 6

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

MAY-JUNE, 1950

The HIGHWAY



Commander Ransford J. Abbott, Governor Driscoll's choice to succeed Spencer Miller, Jr., as State Highway Commissioner is shown at his desk in his Red Bank home. The new commissioner will take over his duties on July 1.

COMMANDER RANSFORD J. ABBOTT TO HEAD HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Past Experience Cited by Governor in Naming Executive Assistant to New Post

The long speculation regarding the successor to Spencer Miller, Jr., to the post of State Highway Commissioner ended on May 17 when the State Senate confirmed the appointment of Ransford J. Abbott, the Governor's executive assistant, to that important post.

This represents the first time that a former employee has returned to head this great Department.

"Commander Abbott brings to the Highway Department greater experience in highway construction, planning and maintenance than any previous appointee," said the Governor in announcing his choice.

The new commissioner is the son of Mrs. Alice Abbott and the late Capt. James Abbott, and is a native of Port Republic in Atlantic County, where for many generations his forefathers were seafaring men. His father was one of the last deepwater captains who

sailed the seven seas at the helm of his own four-master. In his youth the new commissioner spent many years aboard his father's schooner, sailing the blue waters and learning the intricacies of handling a sailing ship.

Rutgers Graduate

Commander Abbott received his early education in the public schools of Atlantic County and was graduated from Atlantic City High School in 1917. He then entered Rutgers University at New Brunswick where he played varsity baseball and managed the football team until World War I interrupted his studies. Accepted as a naval aviation cadet after several unsuccessful previous enlistment attempts, he was assigned to the

(Continued on Page 2)

COMMISSIONER MILLER RESIGNS TO ACCEPT COLLEGE PRESIDENCY

Will Head American International College at Springfield, Massachusetts

After eight years of meritorious service to the State of New Jersey as Highway Commissioner, Spencer Miller, Jr., has resigned to accept the presidency of American International College at Springfield, Mass.

During his two terms of office, a period of longer service than any other State highway commissioner, he guided the destinies of the Department through the turbulent war years and successfully launched it on the vast post-war program that followed. Throughout this entire period of time he imbued all with the complete honesty and integrity of his administration.

The accomplishments of Commissioner Miller during his term of office have been many. Perhaps he will be remembered best for his untiring and successful efforts to obtain parkway and freeway legislation for New Jersey. In accomplishing this he had the support of many organizations and in-

dividuals who were interested in roadside improvement and advanced highway design. But it is to him that the chief credit belongs.

Many innovations were introduced to the Department by Commissioner Miller. Among these were: the establishment of an employee publication, THE HIGHWAY, which he himself named; the authorization of a modern merit rating system; the formation of the Suggestion System; the creating of the "open door" personnel policy; holding regularly scheduled staff meetings; and many others.

Under his administration the Division of Planning, Traffic and

(Continued on Page 4)

HAIL AND FAREWELL

Shortly after I assumed my duties as State Highway Commissioner on May 1, 1942, in the midst of the War we launched "The Highway," a Department publication, to communicate to each employee a better understanding of general departmental policies, and to give each one a sense of belonging to a branch of the State Government that was dedicated to the service of the public. The publication, under the able editorship of W. Carman Davis, has become an important institution for each one of us.

During the war it became a medium by which we at home could communicate with our fellow employees in the armed services wherever they were in different parts of the world. In the early days of reconstruction, "The Highway" enabled us to welcome back to the Department many who served their country—and in some cases to pay our last tribute to our hero dead. Since then "The Highway" has kept us all informed of our expanding highway program as well as news about our fellow-workers that has made us all feel we were members of a great family.

Eight years ago in my first message to "The Highway" as it made its first appearance, I said in part:

"We want, in this State, to continue to build good roads, but we want also to build good men. We want to make the Department proud of its employees and the employees proud to belong to the Department. THE HIGHWAY can help to carry that message."

"The Highway" has done all that we expected of it and more—it has helped to lift the morale of the Department to what older employees have described as the highest in the history of the Department. For that I am grateful both to the editors of "The Highway" and to all who share in our work.

But as I praise "The Highway" for its invaluable service to us all, I want to avail myself of its pages to greet all the employees of the Highway Department as I bid them all farewell. On July 1 I resign as State Highway Commissioner to become the President of the American International College at Springfield, Massachusetts, in the Connecticut Valley. The post provides a challenging opportunity for community service which I find compelling.

As I leave the Department on the first of July, I shall take with me the friendship of a host of men and women with whom I have been privileged to work these past eight years. While it has not been possible to know each employee well, I think I have met practically every employee at one time or another in the past eight years. Of one thing I am certain, I shall be able to carry with me the recollection of an experience of working with a devoted group of men and women in the service of the State that I shall treasure all my life. What success as a team we have attained is directly traceable to the cooperation of each one of you.

These past eight years moreover have encompassed a Global War and the dawn of the Atomic Age—events enough for the lifetime of any one of us. But these past four years have also been a period of the greatest highway building in the Department's history. What is more, we have produced more work with fewer men than ever before. We could not have done this without the cooperation of every one—"the everlasting teamwork of every bloomin' soul," to quote Kipling's phrase.

So, as I say farewell I have a word of sincere thanks to each one of you in the Highway Department for your invaluable cooperation—in whatever division and in whatever part of the State you have worked.

There will remain opportunities of service for each one of us in the days ahead; I could not ask for a more loyal and cooperative group than you have been. For me these have been eight adventurous years in the public service that I shall never forget; I am proud to have served my State in our Highway Department. You will remain my friends wherever I am. I bespeak your loyal cooperation with my successor.

Spencer Miller, Jr.
State Highway Commissioner

Increased Awards For Suggestions

\$10.00 Minimum Set for All Accepted Ideas

Effective May 15, 1950, Commissioner Spencer Miller, Jr., has approved the payment of \$10.00 to each suggester whose idea has been accepted by the Suggestion Committee and approved by the Highway Commissioner for adoption into practice. All suggesters will therefore receive an initial cash award for their beneficial ideas. This was not previously available.

In addition, the Commissioner has approved increased maximum award limits in the Departmental Suggestion Plan as follows:

Group 1—Suggestions on which monetary savings can be estimated. Minimum \$10.00. Maximum \$200.00.

Group 2—Suggestions relating to safety, health, public relations, etc. Minimum \$10.00. Maximum \$200.00.

Group 3—Beneficial suggestions of a minor or convenience nature. Minimum \$10.00. Maximum \$25.00.

The previous schedule for groups 1 and 2 carried a limit of \$100.00, and group 3 had a minimum of \$5.00 and a maximum of \$10.00.

J. A. Combs, personnel director, stated in the March issue of Suggestion News, "Our program was initiated to encourage all employees to offer ideas and reward the authors for meritorious suggestions and accomplishments that will promote greater efficiency and economy within the Department." He added, "If your suggestion is original, contains a definite proposal for improvement, may effect savings or improve work methods—Write it up—turn it in."

The following members of the Suggestion Committee are available for consultation and advice:

Arthur J. Lichtenberg, Chairman, Bridge Division; Harry Fowler, Survey & Plans; Dorland J. Henderson, Electrical; Charles A. Hurley, Accounting; Ralph A. Sherman, Laboratory; W. Morgan Van Hise, Equipment; Marion Hester, Secretary.

Hospital Ward Gift of Highway Engineer

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Y. Corson of Marmora recently presented the Bridgeton Hospital with a new maternity ward in memory of their son who was treated at the hospital prior to his death for injuries received in an automobile accident.

Corson is a principal engineer in the Pleasantville office of Survey and Plans and has been with the Highway Department since 1925. Those in the Trenton offices know Ed as the genial companion of Leland Buzby on occasional trips to headquarters. His modesty is exceeded only by his generosity. This news item reached the desk of THE HIGHWAY only through a clipping sent in by a friend.

C. A. BURN MARRIES

Chester A. Burn, Acting Assistant State Highway Engineer, was married to Miss Georgiana F. Minnull, of Caldwell, on Saturday, May 20. The ceremony was held in the parish house of St. Aloysius Church of that city.

Following the wedding, which was a quiet one and limited to a few close friends and members of the family, a reception was held in the home of the bride's sister at Basking Ridge.

To Mr. and Mrs. Burn THE HIGHWAY extends best wishes

THE HIGHWAY

Published by the New Jersey State Highway Dept.

In the Interests of Its Employees

W. CARMAN DAVIS, Editor

Contributing Editors:

Fred C. Claus
Elmer L. Meyer
Chris Kucker
Joseph Mahan
Marie Walsh

Joan Petry
Chester P. Smith
Chas. J. Doherty
G. H. Conner

James O'Rourke
Doris DeCarlo
Jack Meyer
B. T. Patterson
Bill Ward

Publication Office: 148 West State Street, Trenton, N. J.
Telephone: Trenton 2-2131—Extension 573



COMMISSIONER MILLER LEAVES

After eight years of outstanding leadership at the helm of the State Highway Department, Spencer Miller, Jr., has resigned to accept the presidency of the American International College at Springfield, Massachusetts. In taking his leave of State service, the Commissioner can look back on a long and distinguished record of achievement, made possible to a large degree by his foresight and personal qualities of leadership.

Perhaps the most widely heralded of his many accomplishments as State Highway Commissioner was the enactment of Parkway and Freeway legislation. Also the great contribution he made, in speaking on more than 500 occasions toward the realization of a new Constitution for New Jersey. But to the rank and file of Highway men and women he was beloved for the myriad of "little things" too numerous to mention in detail; for his consideration and wisdom, and for his tolerance and understanding. Always a gentle taskmaster, he had that rare quality of leadership that spurred men on to greater achievements.

As we say au revoir to this fine gentleman, it is gratifying to know that he has chosen to continue to work in community service as the president of an outstanding institution. At Springfield his presence will serve as an inspiration to the student body and do much to mold character and prepare others for tomorrow's leadership. In taking up his new chapter of an illustrious career, he takes with him the best wishes of all who have had the pleasure of knowing him.

AN OUTSTANDING APPOINTMENT

Governor Driscoll is to be congratulated upon his recent appointment of Commander Ransford J. Abbott to the position of State Highway Commissioner. In making his choice, the Governor has placed at the head of the Highway Department a man who is fully qualified by past experience to administer efficiently and wisely the vast road building program of the State.

During his six years as deputy to former State Highway Commissioner E. Donald Sterner, Commander Abbott played an important role in the formation of highway policy, and there are few, if any, functions of the Department with which he is not fully conversant.

Commander Abbott brings to his new post boundless energy and ability to get things done with a minimum of lost time. His close relationship with the Department during his term as executive assistant to the Governor only adds to his many qualifications, for, during this period—in the words of the chief executive—"a very large portion of the master planning of our highway system has been done . . . by Commissioner Miller, Commander Abbott and myself."

And so, after a period of over eight years, during which time he served his country with distinction in time of war, and his State with ability in time of peace, he returns to the field he knows best.

It is the very special privilege of THE HIGHWAY to welcome you, Commissioner Abbott, on behalf of the men and women of a fine Department.

SURVEY and PLANS

FRED C. CLAUS

CRANFORD
Jim Roper

Pete Jensen has returned from a two weeks' vacation in Florida, and Howard Koons is planning a trip to Kansas to attend his son's graduation from Kansas University on June 3.

Augie Seber is back with Survey and Plans after spending a couple of years on construction with Emil Benoist. Leonard Liebowitz and Robert Turner have been transferred to the Montclair office. Joe Prochnicki resigned to accept a position with a steel company.

The committee in charge of the affair has set a tentative date, July 16, for our picnic, which will be held at Echo Lake.

Dick Waugh, Fred Marinaro and their parties are spending their

time in the office lately finishing "as builds."

Within the past month or so Dick Waugh, Dave Brooks, Pete Jensen, Bill Back, and Bill Kirchner have all become proud owners of new cars. Looks as if prosperity is really here at last.

The news of Kyle Totten's death came as a blow to his friends here in Cranford. Sy Berger, Bill Ehrenfeld, Bill Goodwin, Augie Seber, and Bill Reins attended his funeral and acted as honorary pall bearers.

UPPER MONTCLAIR
Frank J. Snagnola

Our deepest sympathy to Sid Neville upon the loss of his mother.

For Mrs. and Mr. Nick Tuozzo — it's a cute little girl baby.

For Mrs. and Mr. Chet Elliot — it's a husky little male.
Best wishes to the proud parents.

Resignations: Ivan K. Packer, asst. engr., on March 31.
Roland Schwartz, sr. eng. aide, on April 15.
Frank Artusio, jr. engr. on April 5.
George L. Errick, jr. engr., on May 8.

It looked for a moment as if the Department had two new, but very young, lads reporting for duty the other morning. The two "lads," however, turned out to be Allen and Herbert, Jr., sons of our chief, H. K. Englishman.

H. S. Weiss is limping slightly and still doctoring his injured knee, but he's back on the job.

Glad to report that Mrs. Kunzler is again feeling well, thank you. Glad to report the same for Mrs. Amento and Mrs. Zampella.

Rodger Coupe is with us again. His assignment at Newark was duly completed. R. C. is our man.

Re: Johnny Matchett, our big outdoor sportsman. It's hard to believe that he has never — no, never — caught a legal-sized trout. No — no — don't get this statement wrong. Of course he does not bring home the itty, bitty ones.

Charley Hirst didn't like it (would you?) — having your car go dead on a country road, miles from nowhere, and alone, in the middle of the night.

Lee Sullivan has another car. The old jalopy he had is now someone else's headache.

Did you know Harold Kettlewood is home sick?

J. V. Lincoln, F. W. Berberick, Al Zampella, R. DiGiacomo, N. Sanwald, and Spagnola made two trips to Pompton Plains avistit' Farmer Kettlewood. He's coming along slowly with his arthritis treatments, but we'll say this for him — he has the most wonderful sense of humor we have ever seen and it's a pleasure to know such a grand and congenial guy.

TRENTON

Al Cohen

We regret to report the illness of Fred Claus and Ollie Lozier, both of whom have been away from their posts for many weeks. We sincerely hope that by the time you read this item both will have recovered.

For the record: Jimmy Hamilton's wedding date is set for June 17. Ann Bainbridge will make up the other half of the team. Best wishes are extended.

June will also be a big month for Charlie and Mrs. Meyer, who are expecting their first born.

Mary Smeraldi's big marine was in for a week-end recently. The look in Mary's eyes the following Monday morning showed that his visits are more than welcome.

For the second time in recent months Walt Voorhees visited the Everglade state to do some fishing. Must like southern waters.

NEWARK

Ralph Perry

By the time you are reading these items, our chief, Howard Rigby, and his wife will be on an extensive trip through the western states, celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary.

Austin Schenck just completed a trip to Florida and acquired a fine cat of tan. Incidentally, if he hadn't taken time out to rest, he would have reached Miami in 24 hours.

Bill Blass has been making several week-end trips to Boston during the past two months. He is now getting tired of bachelor quarters and is going to bring wifey home on next visit.

Ed Houghton has finished a complete job of interior decorating at home. He believes that the reason women live longer than men is that paint is a great preservative.

Ted Hamler reports a new addition to his family — a son. Christopher.

Frank Collins became a TV fan recently, and Bill Hasburg is really becoming video minded.

Commander Ransford J. Abbott

(Continued from Page 1)

Navy's first flying corps as a flying cadet and stationed for training at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. At the close of the war he returned to Rutgers to take up his interrupted studies and was graduated with the class of 1922. In addition to his interest in athletics, he was a member of the Cask and Dagger Society at Kappa Sigma fraternity.

While at college, Commander Abbott helped pay for his education by playing semi-pro baseball and working as a lifeguard. It was a summer job as lifeguard on the beach at Atlantic City that was instrumental in sending Commander Abbott to California where he spent the next eleven years. This trans-continental trek materialized when he was offered a position as West Coast representative to a grateful bond broker whom he had saved from drowning in the surf. After a time in the bond business, he engaged in real estate and crashed the movies as an assistant director for several studios.

Returning to his native State in 1933, Commander Abbott remained in Atlantic County until he joined the force of the State Highway Department in 1935 as the executive assistant to State Highway Commissioner E. Donald Sterner, a position he held until he left to enter active service with the Navy shortly after Pearl Harbor. It is worthy of note that during the entire course of the State Highway investigation at that time the name of Commander Abbott was never mentioned by the investigators.

Assistant Chief of Staff

Anticipating the approaching conflict as early as 1938, he rejoined the Naval Reserves and pursued his naval studies continuously until the time of his entrance into active duty. His first assignment was as lieutenant commander in charge of Section Eight of the Third Naval District with headquarters at Perth Amboy. Shortly after this, Admiral Carpenter was given the assignment of forming the famous Seventh Fleet and Commander Abbott was among the first to be assigned to that command, then located at Brisbane, Australia.

Shortly afterward, when Admiral Kinkaid assumed command of the fleet, he was made assistant chief of staff and stationed aboard the U. S. S. Wasatch. In this capacity he served in all the major battles and operations of the Seventh Fleet, including the occupation of the Philippines. While with Admiral Kinkaid, he participated in all types of naval warfare except submarine, and at the time the Philippines were occupied he had compiled a longer continuous service than any other officer in the Seventh Fleet.

In his 23 months in the Pacific area, he crossed the equator 111 times, participated in 19 fleet operations, including the battle of Leyte Bay, 16 PT boat raids, and

14 bombing missions. Of a total of 130,000 miles in the air, approximately 100,000 were spent in combat territory.

When the success of the invasion of the Philippines had been assured following the Battle of Leyte, Commander Abbott was given the assignment of bringing President-in-exile Osma from his hide-out in New Guinea to newly conquered Leyte. This highly secret mission resulted in the re-establishment of the Philippines government.

Joins ABC Commission

With the fall of the Philippines, Commander Abbott took a long deferred trip to the States and rejoined his family briefly before reporting as an instructor to the PT Boat Base at Quonset, R. I. Upon cessation of hostilities he returned to New Jersey as Deputy Commissioner of Alcoholic Beverages under the present governor, who was at the time the ABC Commissioner.

When Alfred E. Driscoll received the Republican nomination for governor, Commander Abbott immediately requested a leave of absence without pay from the ABC and took his place beside his friend, candidate Driscoll, throughout the primary and election campaigns. Upon his election as Governor, Driscoll appointed Abbott as his executive assistant, a position he continued to hold with distinction until his recent appointment as State Highway Commissioner.

Commander Abbott, who since the war has resided in Red Bank, Monmouth County, with his wife and daughter, Nancy, will work in complete cooperation with Commissioner Miller during the period between now and July 1, and the transfer of authority will be worked out in such a manner that there will be no interruption in the program of the Highway Department. He has stated to Commissioner Miller that it is his intention to carry on the present high degree of honesty and integrity of the Highway Department, and give full credit at all times to the former commissioner for whose project he is now under construction. He has also assured Miller that it is his intention to have him officiate at the opening ceremonies of all sections of highways which were started under his administration.

Commander Abbott is a man of few words. During his many years of public life his platform appearances have been exceedingly rare. As head of the State Highway Department he will, of course, have to appear, from time to time, in the role of principal speaker. He plans to limit these appearances, however, strictly to affairs of the Department.

Commander Abbott's trim figure at the age of 51 testifies to his still active interest in athletics, which include his first love—boating—as well as ice skating, skiing, swimming, tennis and golf, when the time will allow.

ELECTRICAL FLASHES

JOSEPH MAHAN

June 11 will be a big day for Tony Russo, of our Fernwood office, at which time he will be married to Miss Marie Curcio of Trenton. Our congratulations and best wishes.

Also to be married is Rudy Zdanowicz, on June 10; and very new newblows include Lee Hoffman to Miss Mary Kury, and Ronnie Asson to Miss Doris Wainwright.

Bill Rasmussen, Frank Hullfish, and Joe Mahan have just completed spring housecleaning in their new homes in the Treton area.

We welcome Bill McElroy as a junior auditor in the Trenton office.

Announcement is made of a new arrival at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Americo Rosena — a daughter, Virginia.

Quoted from accident report of April 25 by H. F. Cornell, bridge operator, concerning a car which ran through the guard rail of the Island Heights bridge: "Hearsay: Woman borrows car to trail husband. Too anxious to find him. Skids on bridge and goes overboard."

PARKWAY PERSONALS

MARIE WALSH

Oliver A. Deakin, parkway engineer, recently addressed the Chestnut Hill Civic Association in Union, New Jersey, on the development and landscaping of parkways in general, and Route 4 Parkway in particular.

On April 27 a farewell luncheon was held at Weinman's in honor of Herb Huntoon, principal landscape architect, who has resigned to accept a position with the Public Housing Administration of the Federal Government. As you leave the Parkway Bureau to accept new responsibilities, Herb, you carry with you our sincere wishes for continued success.

Russell W. Myers, assistant landscape architect, returned to work on May 15 after completing his studies at Harvard University for his M. A. in landscape architecture. Congratulations, Russ. It's nice having you back with us again.

At this time the members of the Parkway Bureau wish to extend their sympathy to Ross Pell on the recent death of his father-in-law, Merle C. Worster.

Administration Division

BILL WARD

Joseph A. Combs, Arthur J. Egan, Arthur Lichtenberg, Don Henderson, and Harry Fowler attended the Eastern Regional Conference of the National Association of Suggestion Systems held on May 4 at the Hotel Statler in New York.

Donald Moore, third of the five sons of John Moore, has been appointed Clerk of the Court of the Supreme Court sitting in Newark.

The Highway Bowling Team finished second in its division in the Civil Service League; nosed out in the closing stages of the race. Honors for the highest single game went to Anthony Crea with a 267 marker. The solid man on the star-studded aggregation was Frank Matzer with a season average of 175. The team was composed of Anthony Crea, Frank Dunn as captain, Norman Horner, Frank Kimble, Frank Matzer, Jack Stanley, Jr., and Arthur Washburn. At the conclusion of the season Frank Dunn was elected president of the league. How can we lose next year? We own the ball.

LABORATORY LINES

CHRIS KUCKER

Early spring vacationists included Fred Baumann, who enjoyed a journey to Bradenton, Fla., encountering excellent weather and a preview of major league baseball . . . Jean Anderson cruised to Bermuda and wound up a pleasant stay with a return trip by plane . . . George Simcoe visited friends in Pittsburgh, Pa. While there, a severe cold prolonged his stay . . . Chris Kucker drove to Savannah, Ga., meeting real summer weather and had a pleasant trip home by way of the coastal highway . . . and Edward Baumann took an Easter vacation trip over Skyline Drive.

A former Lab employee and veteran of the Navy, Thomas Foster, recently visited us here. Tom, remembered as the Highway photographer some years ago, is now farming in South Jersey.

Pleasant memories of college days were revived for Charles Dobbins, class of '21, attending a reunion at Gallaudet College, Washington, D. C., in April.

During the early part of May, two groups of students from Lehigh University were conducted on an educational tour of the Laboratory. Detailed descriptions of routine testing highway materials were given by Ralph Sherman, Russell Sigafos, and Herbert Dieffenferfer.

Among the additions to our staff are Raymond Bilinski and Samuel Niemiec added as asphalt plant inspectors — also a change of title for Edward Pollock from junior engineer to asphalt plant inspector.

Major Joseph C. Reed, of the U. S. Army Reserve, recently was recalled to active duty for a training period.

Winfield Allen was married on April 15 to Miss Catherine Panacek. A planned Florida honeymoon had to be canceled due to a delay in the delivery of a new car. New York was substituted for the occasion. On June 3 Thomas Kinney will be married to Miss Elizabeth N. Zwick. We wish much happiness to both couples.

Sherry Heberling, one of our very popular and photogenic stenographers, has an interesting part time position. Sherry spends her Saturdays as a photographer model in New York City and is quite thrilled at being selected to work in this field.

It is a pleasure to receive and mention the many favorable comments regarding the presentation of lectures by William Ryan and Ralph Sherman in connection with the latest lecture series sponsored by the Department.

On May 4 we had an unusual



On April 10 the State Street overpass of the Trenton Freeway was formally opened by Commissioner Miller who is shown above cutting the ribbon. In attendance at the time were many State Highway engineers and city officials. Standing to the left of the Commissioner are City Engineer Joseph English; Arthur Salvatore, Secretary to Mayor Connolly; State Highway Engineer Edward W. Kilpatrick (front row); while in the rear on the left are William VanBreemen and Fred L. Gerard. In the front row on the right are Morris Goodkind, Harry C. Robbins, and Neil MacDougall; and in the rear right are Frank Schmidt and Arthur Hancock of the Survey and Plans Division.

MORRIS GOODKIND TO BE HONORED FOR 25 YEARS AS BRIDGE CHIEF

Newark Testimonial Scheduled for June 8
Many Dignitaries to Attend

In recognition of his 25 years as bridge engineer for the Highway Department, the Bridge Division Club is holding a testimonial dinner for Morris Goodkind at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark. The date of the affair is June 8.

Among those who have been invited to attend and pay tribute to Mr. Goodkind are Commissioner Spencer Miller, Jr., and his successor, Commander Ransford J. Abbott; Ernest E. Howard, president of the American Society of Civil Engineers; and John Matthews, president of the N. J. Associated General Contractors.

Morris Goodkind came to the State Highway Department in 1922 as supervisor of bridges in the Maintenance Division. In 1925 he stepped into the position of bridge engineer and on May 1 he completed 25 years in that capacity. Under his leadership nine awards have been given to the Highway Department for the outstanding merit of its bridges.

Besides serving in his capacity as bridge engineer, Mr. Goodkind is a director of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and a member of the Engineering Advisory Councils of Rutgers University and the Newark College of Engineering.

The committee in charge of the affair is under the co-chairmanship of Wilbur H. Spencer and Arthur J. Lichtenberg. Other members are: J. J. Koffler, L. C. Petersen, Sven Hedin, G. A. Hefferman, L. Shortz, J. F. Evans, J. H. Patrick, A. P. Gabrenas, T. Kiselewicz, George Gordon, J. J. Stanley, and R. E. Simon.

visitor, Mr. E. C. Chandra Sekharan (Charlie Sekhar) from Madras, India. Mr. Sekhar has completed a two year fellowship at Princeton University, majoring in highway construction and stabilization of soils. Upon his return to Madras in September he will join his government and apply his acquired knowledge to the problems of road construction in India.

A sure sign of the progress and growth of this end of Ewing Township appears in the form of a huge pipeline which now supplies our gas, replacing the bottle type heretofore used. The changeover was made with only a short interruption of service, but required the altering of the many burners used in the Laboratory.

PLANNING and ECONOMICS

NEWARK

Preston E. Northrop

The engagement of Nancy Dautel and George Cortes became known recently. Mr. Cortes will be remembered as a coding supervisor of the Morristown O. & D. Survey last summer. The staff extends best wishes.

Joe Natale's impressive talk on "Procedure in Origin and Destination Surveys" was rated highly by his audience, according to comments heard during the annual lecture series held during March.

Our deep sympathy is extended to Jack Meyer and Kenneth Meirs, whose mothers passed on recently.

Among those who have returned to work after illness are: Al Maspoli, Ed Strack, Steve Barker and Ken Meirs. Glad you are back, lads. Keep your weather legs under you now.

Tony Amabile puts one in mind of a college professor now that he is a member of the Bi-Focal Club.

Welcome to Harry Mohn and Zabel Davis who joined our staff recently. They are working in the traffic division with Bill Kimball in Trenton.

Within a few weeks Fred and Mrs. Baker will move into their dream home near Fernwood, planned and built just as they wanted it to be.

Like a good citizen, Eben Newman, District Traffic Supervisor, has responded to the call of civic duty and is serving as a county juror.

Chief Vincent Berberich's Magnavox recovered its voice last week after a period of aggravating silence. Channel 9 comes in fine now.

The Highway Department romance of Mary Secko and John Warren has led them to the waving palms of Florida where they are honeymooning. We wish you much happiness.

TRENTON

B. T. Patterson

Florence King has just returned to us sporting a very beautiful tan. Two glorious weeks in Florida will do it every time.

Tune in on Friday evenings at 6:30 on Station WBUD and hear our Frank Herrera playing with the Pakman Trio.

Maintenance Notes

CHARLES J. DOHERTY

Russ Geller, who recently returned from a trip of several weeks to Florida, managed to get in quite a bit of golf. He reports he was below his usual form.

Recently the Maintenance Division has had three of its Labor personnel retire, two of whom worked for this Division for more than twenty years. These two are Gaetano Brescia, formerly employed with Foreman Buckalew, and Amillio Squillante, who worked with Foreman Newman. The other, Fred Somerindyke, had been working with Foreman Hildebrant since 1935.

We are sorry to report the death of John Graham, of Morristown, who died March 20, 1950. Mr. Graham had been employed with the Department since 1934 and had worked with Foreman Norris. Our sympathies are extended to his family and relatives.

Phil Voss recently returned from a week's trip down South and says that he had a most enjoyable time.

Grover C. Wheeler

Grover C. Wheeler, 59, of the Purchase and Stores Division, died at his home at 233 Academy St., Trenton, on May 15, following a long illness.

Wheeler came to the Highway Department as the Equipment Division auditor in July, 1922, and remained in that capacity until November, 1936, at which time he transferred to the office of R. W. Wildblood. He was a member of the Pythagoras Lodge, F. & A. M. and the Ten Year Club.

Surviving him are two sisters, Mrs. Clara B. Schmidt and Mrs. Jesse Thompson, of Irvington; and two brothers, Frank and Gilbert Wheeler of Bellevue, N. J., to whom deepest sympathies are extended.



Wedding bells rang for Miss Ruth Rudnick of Philadelphia and Leonard Busch of the Bridge Division on April 9. The happy bride and groom are shown immediately following the ceremony.

The many friends of Henry T. Fisher will be happy to know of his return to the Highway Department. The past few years Mr. Fisher served as a major with the U. S. Army Supply in Austria.

The Division extends a hearty welcome to Richard Britton, who will serve in the capacity of a traffic enumerator.

Grass skirts and tropic isles — that's what Bob Nolan has been dreaming about since he purchased a ukulele and started his lessons given by Godfrey on TV.

We drove by the Nottingham Miniature Golf Course the other day and saw Fred Quinn with paint can in hand doing last minute touch-up before opening date.

Roy Emerson is the only man we know who called them right in the Kentucky Derby. Only next time, Roy, back your choices.



Governor Alfred E. Driscoll congratulates Highway Commissioner Spencer Miller, Jr., upon his appointment as president of American International College at Springfield, Mass. Commissioner Miller is remaining as head of the State Highway Department until July 1 at which time he will assume his duties at Springfield.

PLAN INFORMAL TESTIMONIAL FOR COMMISSIONER MILLER

Large Turnout Expected at New Building on June 29 — Building Inspection on Program

A testimonial to Commissioner Miller is being planned for June 29 at 4:30 p. m. in the new Fernwood Office Building of the Highway Department. In accordance with the expressed desires of the Commissioner, this affair will be strictly informal so that those who attend may come direct from their respective places of employment. The Commissioner wishes to greet his many friends in their "working clothes."

The site at Fernwood was chosen because it was anticipated that many would want to take advantage of the opportunity to inspect the new building which will be nearing completion by that date.

In keeping with the democratic nature of the affair, tickets have been priced at \$2.00, and instead of a formal dinner, full-course box lunches will be served.

The Bridge Division Club, together with representatives from all other divisions, is sponsoring the affair and arranging an appropriate program. Each member of the Highway Department will be contacted by a divisional representative for tickets. If you prefer to order direct, reservations can be obtained from R. E. Simon, Room 316, State House Annex.

The meeting is open to all members of the State Highway Department, as well as friends who would like to join in a tribute to Commissioner Miller.

It is expected that notices through departmental channels will shortly clarify the matter of getting employees from remote locations to Trenton in time for the party.

COMM. MILLER

(Continued from Page 1)

Economics was set up, together with the Parkway Bureau. More recently he appointed a Director of Personnel. The Certificate of Merit and Bond awards for meritorious service and outstanding suggestions are other firsts to the credit of the outgoing commissioner. These were bestowed at the annual Christmas services, another of his many innovations.

A relentless crusader for more beautiful roadsides, he played an important role in the formation of the Roadside Council. In this work he had the complete cooperation of the New Jersey Federation of Garden Clubs and similar organizations. His active interest in the Blue Star Drive did much to assure the success of that memorial highway.

Commissioner Miller plans to assume his duties as president of American International College as soon as he leaves the Highway Department. He intends to maintain his South Orange residence and spend as much time as his duties will permit in New Jersey where he has a multitude of interests.

In stepping out of public office into the academic field with which he is so well acquainted, Commissioner Miller leaves behind him a host of friends in all walks of life. The Highway Department has been enriched by his administration.

Bowling Title to Equipment Team

Win League Competition And Play-offs

Another successful season of the State Highway Department Bowling League came to a close when the Equipment Division team beat the Painters for the play-off championship. This highly talented combination, consisting of Ed McCabe, Mark Stevens, George Collins, Tim Brennan, Russ Cook, and Elwell "Pat" Clugston had previously finished the regular season in first place with a mark of 57 games won and 27 lost.

Besides showing the way throughout the season, this well balanced team also boasted the two highest averages with Collin's 177.43 and Steven's 175.71, as well as the second and third highest three games on the 639 rolled by Stevens and a 602 by Collins.

The honor of rolling the highest single game and the highest three games went to Arthur Washburn of the Guards who split the pins for a 268 and 639. Tony Crea came up with the second highest single game when he rolled a 258.

The final standing of the teams follows:

	Won	Lost
Equipment	57	27
Guards	48	36
Machine Shop	47	37
Painters	45	39
GI's	42	42
Electrical	37	47
White Line	33	51
Inspection	27	57

EQUIPMENT ITEMS

JAMES O'ROURKE

Jack Brower spent three weeks having a glorious time enjoying the Florida sunshine. Having some extra money left over, he made a \$20.00 contribution to the local community welfare fund of a small Georgia town, prompted, no doubt, by the local constable whose charge was "Burning up the roads."

After getting that new Chrysler, Art Nelson decided to break it in with a three-week trip to Florida and he reports it behaved very nicely.

Sympathies of Fernwood are extended to Morgan VanHise on the death of his sister who passed away at her home in Trenton.

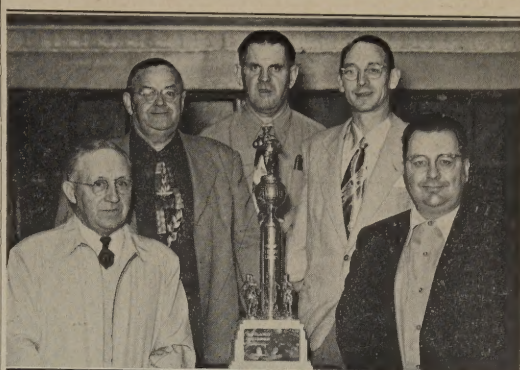
Russ Cook and Jack Leedom have returned to work after a short illness.

Andy Zalescik has developed a new hobby. He is becoming quite an expert at building dog houses. The first one he made his mother put him in it.

On Friday, April 28, Frank M. Devereaux tendered his resignation to take effect immediately under the Veterans' Pension Act after thirty-one years of service. Frank entered the employ of the Department on May 19, 1919, after his release from war service in the army. He reported for duty that day as truck master on the Iselin job. His present plans are to leave New Jersey the last week in May and spend his time along the coast of Maine at Bailey Island, fishing for big tuna. Here's wishing good catches for many years and good luck and long life to a swell guy.

John T. Foster, formerly of this division, and now a patient in the Veterans Administration Hospital at American Lakes, Washington, was recently and belatedly awarded the following medals: the Bronze Star medal with V device; the Purple Heart with cluster; Good Conduct medal; American Campaign medal; European-American-Middle Eastern Campaign medal with silver star device; World War II Victory medal; Distinguished Unit emblem, and weapons qualification badges.

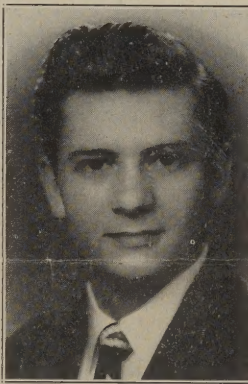
During action with the 4th Armored Division, Foster, although injured, rescued a buddy from a flaming tank and carried him through heavy fire to a place of comparative safety.



The victorious Equipment Division bowling team shown above with their trophy are: (from the left) Tim Brennan, Mark Stevens, George Collins, Ed McCabe, and Elwell (Pat) Clugston. Absent because of sickness was Russell Cook.

Sign Man's Son Wins Scholarship

Howard L. Ely, of Asbury Park, son of Mr. and Mrs. DeForest Ely of Allentown, has been appointed the "W. Halsey Smith scholar" at the 1950 session of the School of Management, sponsored at Northwestern University by the National Foundation of Funeral Service.



HOWARD L. ELY

Mr. Ely, an alumnus of the McAllister School of Embalming in New York, was first selected as one of a group of six outstanding students by the McAllister dean, and then selected as the most outstanding of that group by a scholarship committee of National Selected Morticians, the association financing the scholarship program.

DeForest Ely is a valued employee of the sign shop who lost his sight in a gunning accident several years ago. His skill, however, at placing reflector buttons in cast-iron signs rivals that of any sighted employee.

Bridgeman Saves Drowning Man

Kennard Coulter Rescues Fifth Person

Here is a story that dates back to January 24. It is too bad it was not brought to the attention of THE HIGHWAY long before this. But since it is so outstanding, the following is quoted from the Millville Daily Republican with the same enthusiasm as if it had happened yesterday:

"The quick action of the bridge tender at the Main Street bridge was responsible for saving the life of a Millville man who yesterday stumbled and fell into the Maurice River directly back of the bridge tender's house . . .

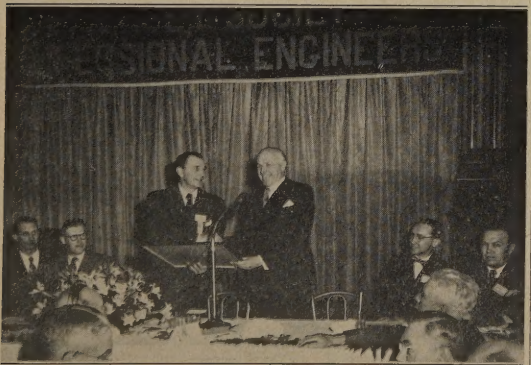
"The man responsible for saving his (Frank Carmelia) life was Kennard Coulter, 20, Laurel Street, who is employed by the State Highway Department as a bridge tender.

"The accident happened about 2:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon when Carmelia walked around the back of the bridge tender's house for a drink of water and stepped on a loose plank. He lost his balance and fell into the Maurice River.

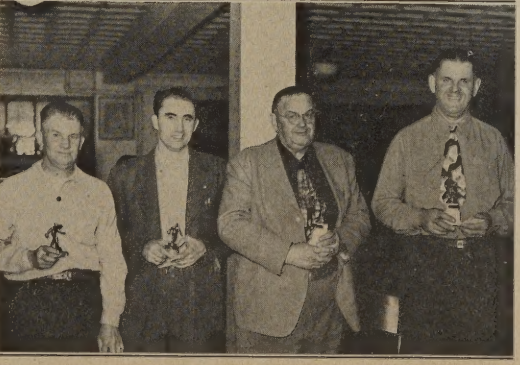
"Coulter, who was nearby, heard the splash in the water and saw Carmelia floundering about. He immediately ran to the edge of the bank and leaped over, reaching Carmelia as he began to sink below the surface.

"He managed to pull him close to shore and lifted him over the bow of a boat which was anchored nearby . . .

This is the fifth person Coulter has saved from drowning in the eight years he has been a Highway employee. As the local paper says, "We might suggest that Mr. Coulter be given, in addition to his title of bridge tender, another, such as 'life guard'." To this THE HIGHWAY would like to add: when awards are next in order, why not place the name of Kennard Coulter at the top of the list.



Commissioner Miller is here receiving the New Jersey Society of Professional Engineers honorary award "In Recognition of his Extraordinary Leadership, Talents, and Distinguished Accomplishments, Notably in the Fields of Highway Planning and Development" at the annual dinner of the Society on April 14, 1950. Commissioner Miller is the first non-engineer to be so honored.



Individual winners Arthur Washburn, Tony Crea, Mark Stevens, and George Collins are shown above with their trophies. Washburn had the high individual game and the high individual three games; Crea had the second high individual game; Stevens the second high yearly average, as well as the second high three games; while George Collins had the high individual single game and was third in the high three games.